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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/091,905	03/04/2002	Edward L. Reuss	18864-06267	9184
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32681 7590 05/21/2007  
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EXAMINER
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MOORE JR, MICHAEL J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2616

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05/21/2007

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/091,905

Applicant(s)

REUSS, EDWARD L.

Examiner

Michael J. Moore, Jr.

Art Unit

2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 March 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4-10,12,14-19 and 21-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4-10,12,14-19 and 21-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Objections*

1. Claims **1, 8, 12, 16, and 17** are objected to because of the following informalities:

Regarding claim **1**, there is some confusion regarding the phrase "A call center or office telephony asset" on line 1. Due to the above alternative language, it is unclear to Examiner whether or not the limitations in the body of the claim apply to "a call center" as well as "an office telephony asset".

Similar objections are made to the alternative language on line 1 of each of claims **8 and 12**.

Regarding claims **16 and 17**, both of these claims currently depend on cancelled claim **13**.

Appropriate correction is required.

Amendments made by Applicant to obviate the claim objections presented in the previous Office Action are proper and have been entered. These objections have been withdrawn.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims **31** and **32** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Alexander et al. (U.S. 6,798,767) (hereinafter "Alexander"). *Alexander* teaches all of the limitations of the specified claims with the reasoning that follows.

Regarding claim **31**, "determining a network address for the asset using an electronic identifier; and using the network address to communicate with a remote system over a network" is anticipated by the use of device names (electronic identifiers) within mapping tables 120a and 120b (of Figures 4A and 4B, respectively) by call manager 26 to determine the IP address or addresses to which a call to a specific destination (remote system) phone number should be directed as spoken of on column 9, lines 5-15.

Lastly, "wherein the asset is selected from the group consisting of: a headset, a headset adapter, and a handset lifter" is anticipated by an IP telephony device (asset) comprising a headset connected to a personal computer 24 (headset adapter) as spoken of on column 4, lines 12-14.

Regarding claim **32**, "using a Media Access Control (MAC) address associated with the asset" is anticipated by an IP telephony device that receives an IP address (network address) using DHCP and registers with call manager 26 using its MAC address and device name as spoken of on column 9, lines 21-31.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the

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invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1, 4-10, 12, 14-19, 21-23, and 28-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Alexander et al. (U.S. 6,798,767) (hereinafter "Alexander").

Regarding claim 1, *Alexander* teaches IP telephony devices 22-24 (office telephony assets) of Figure 1 managed by call manager 26a (remote system) as spoken of on column 4, lines 26-33.

*Alexander* also teaches an IP telephony device that receives an IP address (network address) using DHCP and registers with call manager 26 using its MAC address and device name (electronic identifier), where afterward call manager 26 associates (maps) the IP address (network address) of the IP telephony device with the device name and MAC address (electronic identifier) as spoken of on column 9, lines 21-31.

*Alexander* also teaches where an IP telephony device (asset) comprises a headset connected to a personal computer 24 (headset adapter) as spoken of on column 4, lines 12-14.

While *Alexander* teaches the above-mentioned IP telephony devices having an associated MAC address and device name, and teaches these devices connected to call manager via LAN 20a (network), *Alexander* does not explicitly teach a memory, a network connection, and a network interface within the assets.

However, it would have been obvious to someone of ordinary skill in the art that the IP telephony devices of *Alexander* must have some type of memory for storing the

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MAC address and device name as well as some sort of connection interface in order to communicate via LAN 20a.

Regarding claims **4, 9, and 15**, *Alexander* further teaches IP telephony devices having associated MAC addresses (electronic identifier) as spoken of on column 9, lines 24-26.

Regarding claim **5**, *Alexander* further teaches IP telephony devices receiving an assigned IP address as spoken of on column 9, lines 21-24.

Regarding claim **6**, *Alexander* further teaches IP telephony devices receiving an assigned IP address (globally unique address) as spoken of on column 9, lines 21-24.

Regarding claims **7, 10, and 18**, *Alexander* further teaches communication via IP networks in Figure 1.

Regarding claim **8**, *Alexander* teaches IP telephony devices 22-24 (assets) of Figure 1 managed by call manager 26a (remote system) as spoken of on column 4, lines 26-33.

*Alexander* also teaches an IP telephony device that receives an IP address (network address) using DHCP and registers with call manager 26 using its MAC address and device name (electronic identifier), where afterward call manager 26 associates (maps) the IP address (network address) of the IP telephony device with the device name and MAC address (electronic identifier) as spoken of on column 9, lines 21-31.

*Alexander* also teaches where an IP telephony device (asset) comprises a headset connected to a personal computer 24 (headset adapter) as spoken of on column 4, lines 12-14.

*Alexander* also teaches call manager 26 (management module) coupled to IP telephony devices 22-24 that controls call processing (management task) as spoken of on column 4, lines 26-33.

While *Alexander* teaches the above-mentioned IP telephony devices having an associated MAC address and device name, and teaches these devices connected to call manager via LAN 20a (network), *Alexander* does not explicitly teach electronic identifier storage, and a network interface within the assets.

However, it would have been obvious to someone of ordinary skill in the art that the IP telephony devices of *Alexander* must have some type of memory for storing the MAC address and device name as well as some sort of connection interface in order to communicate via LAN 20a.

Regarding claims **12, 16, and 17**, *Alexander* teaches IP telephony devices 22-24 (assets) of Figure 1 managed by call manager 26a (remote system) as spoken of on column 4, lines 26-33.

*Alexander* also teaches an IP telephony device that receives an IP address (network address) using DHCP and registers with call manager 26 using its MAC address and device name (electronic identifier), where afterward call manager 26 associates (maps) the IP address (network address) of the IP telephony device with the

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device name and MAC address (electronic identifier) as spoken of on column 9, lines 21-31.

*Alexander* also teaches where an IP telephony device (asset) comprises a headset connected to a personal computer 24 (headset adapter) as spoken of on column 4, lines 12-14.

*Alexander* also teaches call manager 26 (management module) coupled to IP telephony devices 22-24 that controls call processing (management task) as spoken of on column 4, lines 26-33.

While *Alexander* teaches the above-mentioned IP telephony devices that are assigned IP addresses (network addresses) using the DHCP protocol for communication via LAN 20a, *Alexander* does not explicitly teach a proxy device for assigning the IP addresses using DHCP.

However, it would have been obvious to someone of ordinary skill in the art that the IP telephony devices of *Alexander* must interface with some type of device using DHCP in order to receive corresponding assigned IP addresses.

Regarding claim 14, *Alexander* further teaches an IP telephony device that receives an IP address (network address) using DHCP and registers with call manager 26 using its MAC address and device name (electronic identifier), where afterward call manager 26 associates (maps) the IP address (network address) of the IP telephony device with the device name and MAC address (electronic identifier) as spoken of on column 9, lines 21-31.



Regarding claims **19, 21, and 22**, *Alexander* teaches IP telephony devices 22-24 (call center assets) of Figure 1 managed by call manager 26a (remote system) as spoken of on column 4, lines 26-33.

*Alexander* also teaches where an IP telephony device (asset) comprises a headset connected to a personal computer 24 (headset adapter) as spoken of on column 4, lines 12-14.

*Alexander* also teaches call manager 26 (management system) coupled to IP telephony devices 22-24 that controls call processing (management task) as spoken of on column 4, lines 26-33.

While *Alexander* teaches the above-mentioned IP telephony devices connected to call manager 26 via LAN 20a (network), *Alexander* does not explicitly teach a plurality of network interfaces within the corresponding assets.

However, it would have been obvious to someone of ordinary skill in the art that the IP telephony devices of *Alexander* must have some sort of connection interface in order to communicate via LAN 20a as shown in Figure 1.

Regarding claim **23**, while *Alexander* teaches the above-mentioned IP telephony devices that are assigned IP addresses (network addresses) using the DHCP protocol for communication via LAN 20a, *Alexander* does not explicitly teach a proxy device for assigning the IP addresses using DHCP.

However, it would have been obvious to someone of ordinary skill in the art that the IP telephony devices of *Alexander* must interface with some type of device using DHCP in order to receive corresponding assigned IP addresses.

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Regarding claims **28-30**, *Alexander* teaches IP telephony devices 22-24 (assets) of Figure 1 managed by call manager 26a (remote system) as spoken of on column 4, lines 26-33.

*Alexander* also teaches where an IP telephony device (asset) comprises a headset connected to a personal computer 24 (headset adapter) as spoken of on column 4, lines 12-14.

*Alexander* also teaches call manager 26 (management module) coupled to IP telephony devices 22-24 that controls call processing (management task) as spoken of on column 4, lines 26-33.

While *Alexander* teaches the above-mentioned IP telephony devices that are assigned IP addresses (network addresses) using the DHCP protocol for communication via LAN 20a, *Alexander* does not explicitly teach a proxy device for assigning the IP addresses using DHCP.

However, it would have been obvious to someone of ordinary skill in the art that the IP telephony devices of *Alexander* must interface with some type of device using DHCP in order to receive corresponding assigned IP addresses.

6. Claims **24-27** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Alexander et al.* (U.S. 6,798,767) (hereinafter "*Alexander*") in view of *Weaver et al.* (U.S. 2003/0145075) (hereinafter "*Weaver*").

Regarding claims **24-27**, while *Alexander* teaches call manager 26 that performs call processing (management tasks) and other telephony functions as spoken of on column 4, lines 26-33, *Alexander* does not explicitly teach asset utilization tracking,

asset location tracking, asset diagnostic information tracking, or asset software or firmware updating.

However, *Weaver* teaches a network management tool 140 of Figure 1 that monitors and provides a viewable interface 400 of cable modem diagnostic data (shows CPEs connected, software version, upstream/downstream channel ID information) as shown in Figure 4.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to someone of ordinary skill in the art, given these references, to combine the diagnostic tool teachings of *Weaver* with the teachings of *Alexander* in order to provide an efficient diagnostics tool for IP telephony devices.

#### ***Response to Arguments***

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to *amended* claims **1, 4-10, 12, 14-19, and 21-32** have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection provided above.

#### ***Conclusion***

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Shostak (U.S. 6,901,255) and Lipasti et al. (U.S. 2002/0039357) are other references considered pertinent to this application.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael J. Moore, Jr. whose telephone number is (571) 272-3168. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (7:30am - 4:00pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wing F. Chan can be reached at (571) 272-7493. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Michael J. Moore, Jr.  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2616

mjm MM

 5/17/07  
WING CHAN  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER